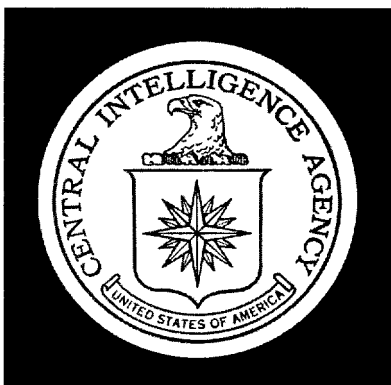


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Jordan: Jordan's radical Arab neighbors are trying to keep up the pressure on Husayn's regime.

The United Arab Command (UAC) is pressing ahead to implement the Arab Defense Council's recent decision to station Iraqi and Saudi forces in Palestinian west Jordan.

Jordan, despite its reluctant agreement to the Defense Council decision, still prefers to avoid the actual stationing of foreign Arab troops in west Jordan.

Iraqi troops had taken positions near the Jordanian border in preparation for entering Jordan.

Iraq supports the entry into Jordan of the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) "army."

India: The government is again confronted with possible violence resulting from communal and religious fanaticism.

A Sikh politico-religious leader in the Punjab, now in the fifth day of a ten-day fast scheduled to end with self-immolation, is attempting to force the government to grant territorial and political concessions to the recently created Punjab State. There is no present indication that a compromise with the central government is forthcoming. Home Minister Chavan says that he has no intention of retreating in the face of the Sikh leader's threats. Army units in the area have been alerted, partial censorship has been imposed, and the government has banned public meetings and has forbidden citizens to carry weapons.

Should the Sikh carry through with his threat to commit suicide on 27 December, or should the government attempt to prevent him by forcibly entering the temple in which he has barricaded himself, communal tension could be heightened between the Sikhs of the Punjab and their Hindu neighbors.

The government faces an even more serious threat of unrest in the event of the death of a prominent Hindu religious leader now in the 32nd day of a fast against cow slaughter. His fast followed the rioting in New Delhi on 7 November, which resulted in the replacement of the home minister with the tougher minded Chavan. [REDACTED]

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Ceylon: The government is preparing for disorders in the wake of its decision to halve the rice rations.

Prime Minister Dudley Senanayake fears a repetition of widespread civil disorder which toppled his government after it cut rations in 1953. He has attempted to soften the impact of the recent cut by announcing that the rice ration will be distributed free. He has also reinstated emergency regulations giving him extensive powers to quell civil disorder and curb leftist opposition.

So far no major incidents have occurred and Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, the former prime minister and leader of an opposition alliance, has called on the public not to create tension. However, left-wing elements may still try to exploit the politically explosive situation. Armed police are patrolling Colombo and are prepared, with the assistance of the armed forces, to put down any violence.

Senanayake's immediate problem is to find enough rice to feed Ceylon at prices it can afford. Ceylon imports about 500,000 tons annually--almost 50 percent of its rice supply. Communist China, through a rice for rubber trade agreement, has contracted to supply its usual 200,000 tons next year. Burma, Ceylon's other major supplier, reportedly has defaulted on December deliveries and has contracted to deliver only half its normal supply of 200,000 tons in 1967.

Negotiations with Thailand are in process, but Senanayake does not expect Bangkok to furnish more than its usual 100,000 tons. The government is exploring the possibility of purchasing rice from Taiwan and North Korea, but it is unlikely that these countries can fill the gap. [REDACTED]

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Indonesia: Top-ranking military and civilian leaders have begun a concerted campaign to depose President Sukarno.

The campaign has opened with widespread public criticism of Sukarno and pressure for an emergency session of congress, Indonesia's highest policy-making body. The press, youth groups, and action fronts have issued demands that Sukarno resign or be removed. Those pushing the campaign reportedly intend to follow these attacks with formal action by congress to depose the President.

General Suharto.

has vetoed plans for anti-Sukarno student demonstrations which had been scheduled for early January. Student planning, however, apparently is continuing, probably with the hope that Suharto will reverse or modify his decision.

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